

U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR PAKISTAN

Description - The proposed FY 1987 program consists of Foreign Military Sales (FMS) credit financing and cash sales, International Military Education and Training (IMET) and Economic Support Funds (ESF).

Overseas Program Management - The Office of the Defense Representative in Pakistan (ODRP) administers the in-country FMS and IMET military aid programs. USAID manages the ESF program.

Rationale - U.S. security assistance to Pakistan is a response to the mounting challenge posed by the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, and is intended to support stability in the region by helping Pakistan deter aggression. The U.S. program also provides a positive influence over Pakistan's nuclear program. Programmed levels of U.S. assistance to Pakistan for FY 1987 will not significantly alter the military balance in South Asia since India will continue to maintain clear military superiority over Pakistan. The U.S. is encouraging India and Pakistan to pursue the common goal of decreasing tensions through dialogue and moderation. Pakistan plays a key role in international efforts to resolve the continuing crisis caused by Moscow's attempt to subjugate Afghanistan. Pakistan's brave opposition to the occupation of Afghanistan puts it into direct conflict with Soviet imperialism. Pakistan has provided humanitarian aid for nearly three million Afghan refugees on its soil; as a consequence, communist forces based in Afghanistan have launched continuous armed attacks into Pakistan which in 1986 and 1987 cost the lives of over 500 persons. Pakistan's well-trained and large armed forces still lack the modern equipment necessary to defend against and deter these attacks. Our proposed aid package is a six-year effort to help Pakistan improve its defense capabilities and economic performance.

The U.S. and Pakistan view the wars in Afghanistan and the Persian Gulf, and the tensions in South Asia, as obstacles to political and economic development. Pakistan has urged moderation by all parties to the Arab-Israeli dispute. Pakistan has tried to reduce tensions in South Asia by reaching agreement with India on either a "no-war pact" or a treaty of friendship. The two countries have established a joint commission, and travel between Pakistan and India has increased dramatically. Much remains to be done, but Pakistan is committed to a process of normalizing relations with India.

A strong relationship with the U.S. increases Pakistan's security. While our aid does not satisfy all of Pakistan's security and economic needs, it stimulates others to provide assistance and investment, and encourages the Government of Pakistan to undertake economic and political policies more conducive to economic development and an improved human rights situation.

FMS Financing: - FY 1987 credits will help pay for the continued modernization of the Pakistani Armed Forces, principally for the acquisition of aircraft, helicopters, howitzers, armored vehicles, shipboard weapons systems and munitions. Pakistan needs mobile, modern, and well-coordinated forces which offer a credible deterrent. FMS credit purchases will be complemented by Government of Pakistan cash purchases of other equipment.

IMET - This program trains Pakistanis to operate and maintain a range of American-made military equipment. It provides professional leadership and management training, as well as pilot training and technical training in maintenance, operations and communications electronics. All training will be conducted in the U.S. and will expose Pakistani military personnel to Western policies and institutions.